

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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Make out your list today. From Salida, Colorado, a good woman sent fourteen subscriptions yesterday. Every mail is bringing them in. You may send as many subscriptions as you like at this rate, to new or old subscribers. Send at least four names and addresses, if possible, with a \$1.00 bill. \$5.00 will pay for twenty trial subscriptions. Think how much good will be done in twenty homes by these hundreds of copies of *The Sword of the Lord*, read oftentimes by the entire family!

We believe that the readers of *The Sword of the Lord* are on trial. Some of you for years have read the paper and been blessed by it when the subscription price did not even cover the cost of printing. Here in the office we bore the burden of it and a few of God's saints helped us to pay the printer and postage while we labored long hours, with much prayer and many tears, sowing the seed beside all waters. What a great privilege it

THE WELL-LOVED STROH WRITES

Rev. W. G. Stroh was song leader and assistant pastor with us in Dallas for a year. His sweet Christian character and his really great singing endeared him not only to the local congregation but to a great radio audience and revival crowds in various places. He felt especially called to evangelistic work and now is with Evangelist Porter Barrington. The Barrington-Stroh party have more calls than they can fill and are being greatly blessed of God with many souls saved. A letter came the other day from Brother Stroh at Modesto, California, where they were engaged. We take the liberty of quoting part of it here.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I have intended writing you ever since we received the sad news concerning the burning of the tabernacle. Brother Barrington and I both felt deeply about the loss, but rest in the promise of Romans 8: 28. We both wanted to help financially but our trip to California is costing us every extra cent we get. However, we have remembered you often in our prayers.

"Brother Barrington and I are both for you 100 per cent. We are keeping busy. Have about three times the calls we can fill. The Lord is giving us a fruitful ministry. Mrs. Barrington has a baby boy now. They adopted one in Oklahoma City recently. My family are

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

has been! Somebody else gave us the gospel, why should we not pass it on at any cost to every creature? But many of you got the paper for less than printing cost. Don't you think you got more than you paid for? Don't you owe something to others now? Others of you were subscribed for by some one else. We believe God is testing you to see whether you will pass on to others the blessings you have received. Jesus commanded that we let our light shine, that we work out our salvation to others. God wants you to pass on the blessings you have received. It is only fair and right, the Christian thing to do, the Christ-honoring thing to do to subscribe for others as well as renewing your own subscription.

"Am I my brother's keeper?" Cain asked. Perhaps you ask the same question. But if so, I remind you that Cain was a murderer. You are your brother's keeper. To you Jesus commanded, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). We are trying to do our part in getting out the gospel. We are making it easy for you to help us. We believe that there are hundreds of you who

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Chenault Begins Revival Sunday

Waterloo, Iowa, Minister in Two Week's Revival at Fundamental Baptist Church, Sunset and Tyler Streets, Dallas, Texas



Rev. P. B. Chenault of Waterloo, Iowa, who begins revival services Sunday at Fundamental Baptist Church, Sunset and Tyler Streets, Dallas, Texas.

Sunday morning at 7:30 listeners to the Gospel Half Hour program will hear Rev. P. B. Chenault, pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa (the largest Baptist Church in the state), who will be in Dallas beginning a two weeks' series of revival services with the Fundamental Baptist Church, speaking nightly at Sunset and Tyler at 7:30 p.m.

Brother Chenault's sermon subjects for the first week of the revival are as follows:

Sunday morning, 10:45 — "Re-vivals."

Sunday evening, 7:30 — "A Wonderful Saviour."

Monday night, 7:30 — "Sin and Silence."

Tuesday night, 7:30 — "The Steps Which Led to Peter's Sin."

Wednesday night, 7:30 — "Life Made Over Again."

Thursday night, 7:30 — "Compromise."

Friday night, 7:30 — "God's Remedy for Sin."

Brother Chenault is a young man, yet one of the best known and best loved men in his state. He is a native of Virginia. Prior to entering the ministry he was

vice-president of Huckaby, Chenault and Co., a real estate agency operating in the city of Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Chenault graduated as the president of his class from the Moody Bible Institute in December of 1931. His first pastorate was the First Baptist Church of LaSalle, Illinois, which lasted for four years beginning January 1, 1932. During the four years in which Pastor Chenault labored at LaSalle, his church doubled its active membership and quadrupled its missionary giving. More than twenty young people left the church and entered training, for full-time Christian service. Many of these young people are now pastors and missionaries.

He became pastor of the Walnut Street Baptist Church, known as the largest Baptist Church in the State of Iowa, and began his ministry January 1, 1936. More than four hundred additions have been made to the church during his pastorate, nearly ten thousand dollars has been paid off of the church debt, and the gifts to missions have increased from \$1,900 to over \$12,000, receipts for all purposes jumped from \$11,258 in 1935 to \$32,179 in 1938.

Pastor Chenault has appeared on the platforms of some of America's outstanding Bible Conferences, including Presidents' Week at Northwestern Bible and Missionary Training School, Founder's Week Conference of the Moody Bible Institute, Canadian Keswick Conference.

He has been especially used of God in evangelistic campaigns

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TAKING GOD'S WAY

BY D. L. MOODY

I wish to call your attention to a man rather than to a text; to one who was a great man in his own country, and very honorable; one whom the king delighted to honor. He stood high in position. He was captain of the host of the king of Syria; but he was a leper, and that threw a blight over his whole life.

There was no physician to help him in Syria. None of the eminent doctors in Damascus could do him any good. Neither could any in Jerusalem. There was no balm in Gilead. If he was to get rid of the leprosy, the power must come from on high. It must be some one unknown to Naaman, for he did not know God.

The Little Missionary

But I will tell you what they had in Syria — they had one of God's children there, and she was a little girl, a simple captive maid. Naaman knew nothing about her, though she was one of his household, this little Israelite.

I can imagine her one day as she said to Mrs. Naaman, her mistress, that there was a prophet in her country that could cure her master of his leprosy.

"Would to God," the maid said, "my lord were with the prophet in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy."

There's faith for you!

"Why," says the mistress, "what are you talking about? Did you ever hear of anybody being cured of leprosy?"

"Ah," said the girl, "it is true. I can assure you; we have got prophets down there that can cure anyone."

At last some one told the king what the little maid of Israel had said. Now Naaman stood high in the king's favor, for he had recently won a great victory. He was called a lord, perhaps he was a prince, a sort of Syrian Prince Bis-

marck, who stood near the throne. So the king said,

"You had better go down to Samaria, and see if there is anything in it. I will give you letters of introduction to the king of Israel."

Money Will Not Buy Salvation

Yes, he would give Naaman letters of introduction to the king. That's just man's idea. The notion was that if anybody could help him, it was the king, and that the king had power both with God and man. Oh, my friends, it is a good deal better to know a man that knows God! A man acquainted with God has more power than any earthly potentate. Gold can't do everything.

Away goes Naaman down to Samaria with his kingly introduction, and he takes with him a lot of gold and silver. That is man's idea again; he is going to pay for a great doctor, and he takes about half a million dollars, as far as I can make it out, to pay for the doctor's bill. There are a good many men who would willingly pay that sum if with it they could buy the favor of God, and get rid of the curse of sin. Yes, if money could do it, how many would buy salvation! But, thank God, it is not in the market for sale. You must buy it at God's price, and that is "without money and without price." Naaman found that out.

And now, my dear friends, did you ever ask yourselves, Which is the worst—the leprosy of sin, or the leprosy of the body? For my own part, I would a thousand times sooner have the leprosy of the body eating my eyes out, and my feet and arms, I would rather be loath-

some in the sight of my fellow-men, than die with the leprosy of sin in my soul, and be damned. Oh, how it has pulled men down! The leprosy of the body is bad, but the leprosy of sin is a thousand times worse. It has cast angels out of heaven, it has ruined the best and strongest men that ever lived in the world. Oh, how it has pulled men down! The leprosy of the body could not do that.

But to proceed. There is one thing about Naaman that I like, and that is

His Earnestness of Purpose

He was thoroughly in earnest. He was quite willing to go one hundred and fifty miles, and to take the advice of this little maid. A good many people say,

"Oh, I don't like such and such a minister; I should like to know where he comes from, and what he has done, and whether any bishop has laid his hands on his head."

My dear friends, never mind the minister, it is the message you want. If some one were to send me a telegraph message, and the news were important, I shouldn't stop to ask about the messenger who brought it. I should want to read the news. I should look at the message, and not at the boy who brought it.

And so it is with God's message. The good news is everything, the minister nothing. The Syrians looked down with contempt on the Israelites, and yet this great man was willing to take the good news at the hands of this little maiden, and listen to the words that fell from her lips. If I got lost in London, I should be willing to ask any-

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Mrs. Riley has done a masterful piece of work. I picked up the volume, hardly daring to hope that it was what it ought to be. The writing of a biography of a great man is the work of a master; I expected to be disappointed. Instead, I was most happily surprised. Three things eminently fit Mrs. Riley for writing this biography. First, she is a remarkable woman with mental, spiritual and literary qualifications for the task; second, her association with Dr. Riley since 1920 in the work of Northwestern Bible School and of late years as his wife; and third, very few great men have had so carefully recorded all the details of their lives as Dr. Riley. Mrs. Riley has seventy scrapbooks with 300 pages each. Hence the book is packed with dates, names, places, exact quotations. A rich vein of philosophy runs through

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TAKING GOD'S WAY

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body which way to go, even if it were only a shoeblack. It is the way I want, not the person who directs me.

But there was one drawback in Naaman's case. Though he was willing to take the advice of the little girl, he was not willing to take the remedy.

The Stumbling-Block of Pride

stood in his way. The remedy the prophet offered him was a terrible blow to his pride.

I have no doubt he expected a grand reception from the king of Israel, to whom he brought letters of introduction. He had been victorious on many a field of battle, and held high rank in the army; perhaps we may call him Major-General Naaman of Syria, or he might have been higher in rank even than that; and bearing with him kingly credentials, he expected no doubt a distinguished reception. But instead of the king rushing out to meet him, he, when he heard of Naaman's arrival, and his object, simply rent his mantle, and said,

"Am I God, to kill and to make alive?"

But at last the king bethinks

P. B. Chenault Begins Revival Sunday

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

throughout the middle western states.

Since being in Waterloo, Mr. Chenault has been elected president of the Iowa Christian Fundamentals Association, the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches of Iowa. For the past two years he has been president of the Moody Bible Institute Alumni Association, and is president and one of the co-founders of the Waterloo Bible Institute.

It is an unusual pleasure to the pastor to announce Brother Chenault's coming and it will be an unusual opportunity for all of Dallas who can crowd into the church to hear this preacher, this soul-winner, this clean and warm-hearted man of God!

Daytime services will be announced later. We know that many will want to hear brief messages daily on prayer, soul winning, the Spirit-filled life and problems of a Christian.

Brother Chenault is especially anxious for a great deal of visitation in Jesus' name. Let us go from house to house, inviting people to the revival services and to the Lord Jesus Christ. If you do not have enough Christian influence to get your own loved ones and neighbors to a revival, then surely you yourself are to blame for their lost condition.

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamental Baptist Church

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himself of Elisha the prophet, and he says,

"There is a subject in my kingdom who may be able to help you and cure your leprosy."

And I can imagine Naaman's pride reasoning thus: "Surely the prophet will feel very much exalted and flattered that I, the great Syrian general, should come and call upon him."

And so, probably, full of those proud thoughts, he drives up to the prophet's humble dwelling with his chariot, four-in-hand, and his splendid retinue. As nobody seemed to be coming out to greet him, he sent in his message:

"Tell the prophet Major-General Naaman of Syria has arrived, and wishes to see him."

Elisha takes it very coolly. He does not come out to see him, but as soon as he learns his errand he sends his servant to tell him to dip seven times in the river Jordan, and he shall be clean.

Now that was a terrible blow to his pride! I can imagine him saying to his servant,

"What did you say? Did I understand you aright? Dip seven times in Jordan! Why, we call the river Jordan a ditch in our country."

But the only answer he got was, "The prophet says, Go and dip seven times in the Jordan, and thy flesh shall become like the flesh of a little child."

I can fancy Naaman's indignation as he asks, "Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean?"

So he turned and went away in a rage.

The fact was, the Jordan never had any great reputation as a river. It flowed into the Dead Sea, and that sea never had a harbor to it, and its banks were not half so beautiful as those of the rivers of Damascus; for Damascus was one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It is said that when Mahomet beheld it he turned his head aside for fear it should divert his thoughts from heaven.

Naaman turned away in a rage.

"Ah," he said, "here am I, a great conqueror, a successful general on the battle-field, holding the very highest rank in the army, and yet this prophet does not even come out to meet me; he simply sends a message! Why, I thought he would surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place and recover the leprosy."

"I Thought"

There it is! I hardly ever knew a man yet who, when talked to about his sins, didn't say,

"Yes, but I thought so and so."

"Mr. Moody," they say, "I will tell you what I think; I will tell you my opinion."

In the 55th chapter of Isaiah it says, "God's thoughts are not our thoughts, nor His ways our ways." And so it was with Naaman. In the first place he thought a good big doctor's fee would do it all, and settle everything up. And besides that there was another thing he thought: he thought going to the king with his letters of introduction would do it. Yes, those were Naaman's first thoughts.

"I thought." Exactly so. He turned away in rage and disappointment. He thought the prophet would have come out to him very humble and very subservient, and bid him do some great things. Instead of that Elisha, who was very likely busy writing, did not even come to the door or the window; he merely sent out the message.

"Tell him to dip seven times in the Jordan."

And away went Naaman, saying, "I thought, I thought, I thought." I have heard that tale so often that I am tired of it. I will tell you just what I think about it, and what I advise you to do—Give it up, and take God's words, God's thoughts, God's ways. I never yet knew a man converted just in the time and manner he expected to be. I have heard people say, "Well, if ever I am converted, it won't be in a Methodist church; you won't catch me there." Now I never knew a man say that but, at last, if converted at all, it was in a Methodist church. A man to be converted has to give up his

will, his ways, and his thoughts. God leads him in quite a contrary direction.

And so Naaman, after his anger had abated and cooled down a little, took a second thought, which proved the best, although his pride had been so dreadfully humbled.

The Simple Remedy

Whilst Naaman was thus wavering in his mind, and thinking on what was best to be done, one of his servants drew near and made a very sensible remark:

"My lord, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?"

Yes, there is a great deal of truth in that. If Elisha had said to him, "Go back to Syria on your hands and knees," he would most likely have done it. If he had said, "Go back all the way on one foot," he would have tried to do it. Or if he had said, "Give ten thousand pieces of gold for the medicine I shall offer thee, and thou shalt be cleansed," no doubt he would have done it. But to tell him merely to dip in the river Jordan seven times, why it seemed absurd on the face of it! But this servant suggested to him that he had better go down to the Jordan and try the remedy as it was a very simple one.

I can fancy Naaman still reluctant to believe in it, saying,

"Why, if there is such cleansing power in the waters of Jordan, would not every leper in Israel go down and dip in them, and be healed?"

"Well, but you know," urges the servant, "Now that you have come a hundred and fifty miles, don't you think you had better do what he tells you? After all you can but try it; and he sends word distinctly, my lord, that your flesh shall come again as that of a little child."

So Naaman accepts this word in season. His anger is cooling down; he has got over the first flush of his indignation, and he says he might as well try it. That was the starting-point of his faith, although still he thought it a foolish thing, and could not bring himself to believe that the result would be what the prophet had said.

How many men have told me right to my face they did not believe a man could be saved by simply obeying God. Faith, they thought, was not enough, they must do something. They will have it that there must be a little asking and reasoning, and striving, and wrestling with God, before they can get the blessing.

Foolish Questions

I recollect once praying with a man for his conversion, and just when I thought conviction had been brought home to him, he turned round, and said,

"Who do you think Melchisedek was, Mr. Moody?"

And then I have had others who, when I have been praying with them that their sins might be taken away, would turn round, and ask me,

"Do you believe in infant baptism, Mr. Moody?"

My friends you need not trouble yourselves about those questions, but if you wish to be saved, just do as the Bible tells you.

Unconditional Surrender

At last Naaman's will was conquered, subdued, and broken; and he had faith, and he surrendered. When General Grant was besieging a town which was the stronghold of the southern Confederacy, some of the officers sent word that they would leave the city if he would let them go with their men. But General Grant sent word,

"No, nothing but an unconditional surrender!"

Then they sent word that they would go if he would let them take their flag with them. But the answer was,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

I'm going by the upper road, for that still holds the sun,

I'm climbing through night's pastures where the starry rivers run;

If you should think to seek me in my dark abode,

You'll find this writing on the door, "He's on the Upper Road."

— Streams in the Desert.

Prayer Answered For Healing

Galesburg, Illinois
February 23, 1939

Rev. John R. Rice
Chicago.

Dear Brother Rice:

Just a few lines to let you know that our loving Heavenly Father has made our little girl well. Irene is simply wild with joy! And this took place right after our doctor called me to his office Monday night and told me he could go no farther with Irene. He had done everything he could do for her and Irene was getting worse, having from three to five spells a day. She would always fall on the floor, and the last time she had her spell she told me that it seemed to her the floor came up and hit her. This happened on Monday morning and my wife called our doctor, and it was then he told me he could do no more for her.

We got your dear paper the other day and we read where you made mention of Irene's illness and you asked the readers of *The Sword of the Lord* to pray for her. Thank God for answered prayer. Irene has not had any spells since Monday after the doctor gave her up. And now God gets all the glory. Please thank God with us for answered prayer.

I am enclosing another \$5.00 for your building fund. May God richly bless you in your labor for Him.

Yours in Christ,

(Signed) Marshall Berg

New Church in Oak Cliff

We learn that Rev. E. L. Banta is the pastor of a newly formed church, The Bible Baptist Church of Oak Cliff. We pray God's blessings upon them and will rejoice if many souls are saved through the ministry of this congregation. Brother Banta is a fervent gospel preacher and he and Mrs. Banta are very popular singers.

There are more lost souls in Dallas than all of us can win. Wherever there is a sincere effort to win souls and carry out the great commission, let us rejoice, pray one for another and encourage one another.

Trial Subscriptions

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

will do it. In the next few days let us have at least 2,000 trial subscriptions sent in by those who love the Lord and do it in Jesus' name. If you pray about it and do it in Jesus' name, your subscriptions will result in conversions and great blessing to Christians and you will have a treasure in Heaven.

And I know that you want us to rejoice with you when thousands of new readers read the sermons that are being prepared for the coming issues.

Don't wait! If you can't send many now, send a few and others can be sent later. Send us the names and addresses of preachers, of Sunday school teachers, of neighbors, of relatives and friends. Somebody should subscribe for every family in your church. What a difference it will make in the church! Somebody else can send the paper for a trial period to each member of a Sunday school class. Someone else perhaps will send it to ten preachers, or to a group of deacons or elders. We are particularly anxious for fundamentally sound preachers everywhere to read this paper, that we and they may cooperate in getting out the blessed gospel which we believe and preach alike. Remember, a four month's subscription may be had for 25c, or four for \$1.00, ten for \$2.50, twenty for \$5.00. And we have lists of preachers and Christian workers; if you would like to subscribe for 100 of these, send \$25.00 and tell us it is for preachers or Christian workers, and we will do the rest.

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TAKING GOD'S WAY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

"No, an unconditional surrender."

At last the beleaguered walls were broken down, and the city entered, and then the enemy made a complete and unconditional surrender. It was so with Naaman. He got to that point when he was willing to obey, and the Scripture tells us, "To obey is better than sacrifice."

So he goes down to the river and takes the first dip. As he comes up, I can imagine him looking at himself, and saying to his servant,

"There, there I am, no better than I was when I went in. If one-seventh of the leprosy was gone, I should be content."

Well, down he goes a second time, and he comes up puffing and blowing as much a leper as ever; and so he goes down again and again, the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth time, with the same result, as much a leper as ever. And the people standing on the banks of the river probably said, as they certainly would in our day,

"Why, that man has gone clean out of his mind!"

So when he comes up the sixth time, he looks at himself, and says, "Ah, no better! What a fool I have made of myself. How they will laugh at me! I wouldn't have the generals and aristocracy of Damascus know that I have been dipping in this way in Jordan for all the world. However, as I have gone so far, I'll make the seventh plunge."

He has not altogether lost faith, and down he goes the seventh time, and comes up again. He looks at himself and shouts aloud for joy.

"Lo, I am well! My leprosy is all gone, all gone! My flesh has come again as that of a little child! I never knew such a thing. I never felt so happy in all my life. I thought I was a great and a happy man when I accomplished that victory; but, thank God, I am the happiest man alive!"

So he comes up out of Jordan and puts on his clothes, and goes back to the prophet, and wants to pay him. That's just the old story, Naaman wants to give money for his cure. How many people want to do the same nowadays! Why, it would have spoiled the story of grace if the prophet had taken anything. You may give a thank-offering to God's cause, not to purchase salvation, but because you are saved. The prophet Elisha refused to take anything, and I can imagine no one felt more rejoiced than he did.

So Naaman starts back to Damascus a very different man than he was when he left it. The dark cloud has gone from his mind; he is no longer a leper, in fear of dying from a loathsome disease. He lost the leprosy in Jordan

The Dynamic of A Dream

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

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The book is beautifully printed, has 201 pages, nine illustrations; sells for \$1.50.

when he did what the man of God told him; and if you obey the voice of God, even while I am speaking to you, the burden of your sins will fall from off you, and you shall be cleansed. It is all done by the power of faith.

You may be sure when he got home there was no small stir in Naaman's house. I can just see his

wife, Mrs. Naaman, when he gets back. She has been watching and looking out of the window for him with a great burden on her heart. And when she asks him, "Well, husband, how is it?" I can see the tears running down his cheeks as he says, "Thank God, I am well!" They embrace each other, and pour out mutual expressions of rejoicing and gladness; and the servants are just as glad as their master and mistress, as they have

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

"When Thou Passeth Through The Waters"

ISAIAH 43:2

I

Is there any heart discouraged as it journeys on its way? Does there seem to be more darkness than there is of sunny day? Oh, it's hard to learn the lesson, as we pass beneath the rod, That the sunshine and the shadows serve alike the will of God! But there comes a word of promise, like the promise in the bow — That, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.

II

When the flesh is worn and weary, and the spirit is depressed, And temptation sweeps upon it like a storm upon ocean's breast, There's a haven ever open for the tempest driven bird, There's a shelter for the tempted in the promise of the word; For the standard of the Spirit shall be raised against the foe, And, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.

III

When a sorrow comes upon you that no other soul can share, And the burden seems too heavy for the human heart to bear, There is one whose grace can comfort, if you'll give to Him abode; For the precious promise reaches to the depths of human woe, That, however deep the waters, they shall never overflow.

IV

When the sands of life are ebbing, and I near the Jordan's shore, When I see its waters rising, and I hear its billows roar, I will reach my hand to Jesus, in His bosom I shall hide, And 'twill only be a moment till I reach the other side. It is then the fullest meaning of the promise I shall know — When thou passest through the waters, they shall never overflow.

— Author unknown.

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

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TAKING GOD'S WAY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

been waiting eagerly for the news; and there never was a happier household than Naaman's now that he has got rid of the leprosy. And so, my friends, it will be with your own households if you will only get rid of the leprosy of sin today. Not only will there be joy in your own hearts and at home, but there will also be joy among the angels in heaven.

Another thought is suggested to us by this history of Naaman in the 15th verse of the chapter; and which shows what Naaman's faith led him to believe. "And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant." I want particularly to call your attention to the words,

"I Know"

There is no hesitation about it, no qualifying the expression. Naaman doesn't now say, "I think"; no, he says, "I know there is a God who has power to forgive sins and to cleanse the leprosy."

Then there is another thought. Naaman left only one thing in Samaria, and that was his sin, his leprosy. The only thing God wishes you to leave with Him is your sin; and yet it is the only thing you seem not to care about giving up.

"Oh," you say, "I love it, it is so delightful, I can't give it up; I know God wants it, that He may make me clean. But I can't give it up."

Why, what downright madness it is for you to love leprosy; and yet that is your condition!

"Ah, but," says someone, "I don't believe in sudden conversions."

Don't you? Well, how long did it take Naaman to be cured? The seventh time he went down, away went the leprosy! Read the great conversions recorded in the Bible—Saul of Tarsus, Zacchaeus, and a host of others; how long did it take the Lord to bring them about? They were effected in a minute. We are born in iniquity, shapen in it, dead in trespasses and sin; but when spiritual life comes

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it comes in a moment, and we are freed both from sin and death.

One day as I was walking down the street, I heard some people laughing and talking aloud, and one of them said,

"Well, there will be no difference, it will be all the same a hundred years hence."

The thought flashed across my mind, "Will there be no difference? Where will you be

A Hundred Years Hence?"

Young man, just ask yourself the question, "Where shall I be?" Some of you who are getting on in years may be in eternity ten years hence. Where will you be, on the left or the right hand of God? I cannot tell your feelings, but I can my own.

A hundred years hence all this vast audience will be gone. Some will probably be gone in less than a week, in less than a month or a year, and at the best we shall all be gone in a few more years. I ask you once again, "Where will you spend eternity? Where will you be a hundred years hence?"

The Converted Nobleman

I heard of a man who came a few years ago from the continent, and brought letters with him to eminent physicians from the emperor who said,

"This man is a personal friend of mine, and we are afraid he is going to lose his reason; do all you can for him."

The doctor asked him if he had lost any dear friend in his own country, or any position of importance, or what it was that was weighing on his mind. And the young man said,

"No, but my father and grandfather and myself were brought up infidels, and for the last two or three years this thought has been haunting me, 'Where shall I spend eternity?' The thought of it follows me day and night."

The doctor said, "You have come to the wrong physician, but I will tell you of one who can cure you"; and he told him of Christ, and read to him the 53rd chapter of Isaiah, "With His stripes we are healed."

The young man said, "Doctor, do you believe that?"

The doctor told him that he did, and prayed and wrestled with him, and at last the clear light of Calvary shone on his soul, and later he was writing to this doctor as only one Christian can to another. He had settled the question in his own mind at last where he would spend eternity; and I ask you sinners to settle it before you leave this hall tonight. It is for you to decide. Shall it be with the saints, and martyrs, and prophets, or in the dark caverns of hell, amidst blackness and darkness for ever? Make haste to be wise; for "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?"

Decide Now

At our church in Chicago I was closing the meeting one day, when a young soldier got up and entreated the people to decide for Christ at once. He said he had just come from a dark scene. A comrade of his, who had enlisted with him, had a father who was always entreating him to become a Christian, and in reply he always said he would when the war was over. At last he was wounded, and was put into the hospital, but he got worse and was gradually sinking. One day a few hours before he died, a letter came from his sister, but he was too bad to read it. Oh, it was such an earnest letter! The comrade read it to him, but he did not seem to understand it, he was so weak, till it came to the last sentence, which said, "Oh, my dear brother, when you get this letter, will you not accept your sister's Saviour?"

The dying man sprang up from his cot, and said, "What do you say? what do you say?" and then, falling back on his pillow, feebly exclaimed, "It is too late! It is too late!"

My dear friends, thank God it is not too late for you today. The Master is still calling you. Let every one of us, young or old, rich and poor, come to Christ at once, and He will cleanse us of the leprosy of sin, and make us clean and white by His own precious blood!

(From the book, *The Way Home*, by D. L. Moody. One hundred and twenty-seven pages; 20c).

The Lad With The Loaves

BY MAUD E. CRAMER

Mother, Mother! You remember the lunch I took today; Five little loaves and two dried fish—I gave it all away.

They gave me back some bread He blessed, and some, too, of the fish—Mother, Mother! All five thousand ate all they could wish.

Yes, and there were little children and their mothers, too; Oh, but they had all they wanted; I brought some back to you.

No, no, Mother; I'm not crazy; they had naught to eat; One called "Andrew" told the Master, "Here are bread and meat."

In His strong, firm hands He took them (how His face did shine), He blessed and broke; then fed them all with my food, Mother—mine;

I was hungry—all those people—and such a little bit—Mother, Mother! Just suppose I had not given it!

—From *The Sunday School Times*.

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